

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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R 180804Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4872

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

UNCLAS TAIPEI 2071

USIAC

FOR: IOP/MEDIA REACTION, IEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TW

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT

1. SUMMARY - ALL PAPERS FRONTPAGED PRESIDENT FORD'S REMARKS TO ASNE PANEL THAT THE ROC IS "VERY, VERY IMPORTANT TO US," AND VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S REASSURING FINAL-DAY ACTIVITIES IN TAIPEI. ALL PAPERS HEADLINED FALL OF PHOM PENH WITH LARGEST CIRCULATION UNITED DAILY NEWS BLAMING INACTION OF U.S. AND SEVERAL OTHER NONCOMMUNIST COUNTRIES. UNITED DAILY PROPOSED SENDING A SYMBOLIC FORCE OF VOLUNTEER ANTICOMMUNIST ASIAN TROOPS TO SOUTH VIETNAM. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT FORD'S REMARKS TO A ASNE PANEL ABOUT ROC BEING "VERY, VERY IMPORTANT TO US" WAS FRONTPAGED BY ALL PAPERS INCLUDING BANNERS IN INFLUENTIAL CHINA TIMES (280,000).

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3. VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S FINAL-DAY ACTIVITIES INCLUDING HIS MEETING WITH PREMIER CHIANG AND MADAME CHIANG KAI-SHEK, HIS DEPARTURE STATEMENT AND HIS REVEALING IN TOKYO ACCORDING TO AP THAT HE DELIVERED A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PREMIER CHIANG ALL FRONTPAGED. THERE WAS NO ELABORATION ON FORD MESSAGE BUT AP SAID IT ASSURED ROC OF U.S. SUPPORT.

4. TA HUA EVENING NEWS SAID HIGH-LEVEL U.S. DELEGATION INDICATED STRONG U.S. RECOGNITION OF U.S.-ROC ALLIANCE. PAPER ALSO EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR CONDOLENCE MESSAGES FROM MANY U.S. SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN AND PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGING AND INSPIRING REMARKS BY SENATOR GOLDWATER IN PRESS INTERVIEW.

5. ALL PAPERS HEADLINED FALL OF PHNOM PENH. LARGEST

CIRCULATION UNITED DAILY NEWS (320,000) BLAMED U.S. REFUSAL TO OFFER HELP BUT SAID ATTITUDE OF OTHER FREE COUNTRIES IN ASIA WAS EVEN MORE DISAPPOINTING, BLAMING THAILAND, INDIA, JAPAN AND AFGANISTAN AND PARTICULARLY AUSTRALIA. THE PAPER ENDORSED THAI AND PHILIPPINE PROPOSALS FOR ANTICOMMUNIST ASIAN SUMMIT AND FURTHER PROPOSED SENDING TO SOUTH VIETNAM A SYMBOLIC FORCE OF ASIAN ANTICOMMUNIST TROOPS FOR POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PURPOSES.
CLARKE

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